

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application, with claims 7 and 10-15 withdrawn as being directed to non-elected subject matter. By this amendment, claims 1, 8 and 16 are amended. All pending claims were rejected over U.S. Patent 4,020,751 to Greve (hereinafter "Grove"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections and in light of the preceding amendments and following remarks, request that the rejections be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Office Action rejected claims 1-2, 8, and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Greve. Applicants traverse the rejection. Independent amended claims 1, 8 and 16 recite the steps of: 1) placing or positioning an applicator having at least two nozzles in a predetermined position along a predetermined course; 2) establishing first and second sources containing first and second adhesives; and 3) conveying the first and second adhesives to the first and second nozzles. The applicator of the present claims is disclosed at, for example, Figures 1 and 5; page 16 lines 13-24, and page 28, lines 11-15 of the present specification.

The nozzles of the presently claimed applicator are able to dispense different types of adhesives (see, *e.g.*, page 16, lines 13-15). Greve, in contrast, discloses dispensing only one kind of adhesive from paster 32, as paster 32 has only one source. Though Greve discloses the use of pasters 32 and 37, Greve does not disclose the claimed steps of placing or positioning an applicator having at least two nozzles in a predetermined position along a predetermined course, establishing first and second sources containing first and second adhesives, or conveying the first and second adhesives to the first and second nozzles. Further, Greve does not disclose the predetermined portion of the present claims; Greve discloses pasters 32 and 37 having different

sources and being spaced apart from one another. As illustrated in the Figures of the present specification, the presently claimed invention allows for the application of adhesive to spaced-apart portions of the web. The paster 32 of Greve, however, permits application of adhesive only to directly adjacent portions of a web.

Since Greve does not anticipate: 1) placing or positioning an applicator having at least two nozzles in a predetermined position along a predetermined course; 2) establishing first and second sources containing first and second adhesives; or 3) conveying the first and second adhesives to the first and second nozzles, Greve cannot anticipate the present independent claims 1, 8, and 16. Thus, claims 1, 8, and 16 are allowable. Claim 2, which depends from allowable claim 1, and claims 17-18 which depend from claim 16, are patentable as depending from allowable claims and for their further patentable features. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-6, 8-9 and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greve. Applicants traverse the rejection and believe that in light of the above amendments and remarks, the rejection is moot.

With respect claims 3-5, the assertion that it would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to alter Greve to intermittently to apply adhesive by a rotary valve or by pump is erroneous. As admitted by the Office Action, there is no disclosure in Greve directed to valves, pumps, or intermittent application of adhesive. (See Office Action page 2, paragraph 4.) Accordingly, there is no motivation to modify the invention of Greve in the manner suggested by the Office Action. In the absence of a specific reference providing the necessary

disclosure, the obviousness rejection of claims 3-5 is improper.

Likewise, in the absence of disclosure by Greve for introducing an additive into the adhesive (present claim 6) or maintaining adhesives at different pressures (present claim 9), and without an additional reference including this disclosure, the obviousness rejection cannot stand.

Finally, Greve does not render the present claims obvious because Greve does not teach, disclose, or suggest the steps of: 1) placing or positioning an applicator having at least two nozzles in a predetermined position along a predetermined course; 2) establishing first and second sources containing first and second adhesives; or 3) conveying the first and second adhesives to the first and second nozzles. Instead, Greve teaches the use of multiple pasters separated by a distance for the purpose of applying different types of adhesives to different locations along the web. This is contrary to the claimed invention which recites placing an application having first and second nozzles in a predetermined position of the course along which the web advances. Accordingly the obviousness rejection is not appropriate.

Withdrawal of the rejection of the present claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Additional comments

The present invention offers several advantages over Greve. First, only one applicator is needed, thus reducing the amount of machinery required. A reduced number of mechanical components saves time and money, and requires less maintenance. Such advances over the prior art are evidence of patentability.

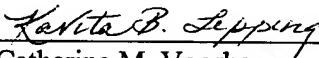
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance indicating the allowability of claims 1-6, 8-9, and 16-18 and that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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